TRENDS

A3275-2
4/6/89

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 25 totaled 332,148, down 3.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 3.4 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 1.2 percent in the East and down 6.7 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal loadings were up 4,952 cars (4.0 percent), and loadings of metallic ores rose 2,207 cars (16.0 percent). Grain loadings were down 5,779 cars (16.2 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 12 weeks of 1989 totaled 3,949,066, down 0.1 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 113,908 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 25, up 0.9 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 12 weeks of 1989 was 1,336,091 trailers and/or containers, up 1.0 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 25 totaled 19.2 billion, 3.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 12 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 229.2 billion ton-miles, up 0.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 25, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 25, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	30,003	35,782	-16.2 %	32,344	-7.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,627	2,137	-23.9	2,110	-22.9
Metallic Ores	16,015	13,808	16.0	14,489	10.5
Coal	127,962	123,010	4.0	128,148	-.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,441	15,253	-11.9	13,357	.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,014	9,763	-7.7	9,350	-3.6
Grain Mill Products	9,460	10,203	-7.3	9,730	-2.8
Food & Kindred Products	8,209	9,099	-9.8	8,813	-6.9
Primary Forest Products	8,945	10,142	-11.8	10,248	-12.7
Lumber & Wood Products	6,769	8,273	-18.2	6,808	-.6
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,613	11,323	-6.3	10,594	.2
Chemicals	26,924	27,872	-3.4	28,413	-5.2
Petroleum Products	4,670	4,726	-1.2	5,128	-8.9
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,442	10,500	-10.1	10,462	-9.7
Coke	5,909	5,659	4.4	5,869	.7
Metals & Products	9,732	10,786	-9.8	9,746	-.1
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,283	20,291	-9.9	21,721	-15.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,506	9,756	-12.8	9,365	-9.2
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	16	32	-50.0	18	-11.1
All Other Carloads	6,608	6,529	1.2	7,292	-9.4
Total	332,148	344,944	-3.7 %	344,005	-3.4 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 25, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 12 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 25, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	332,148	344,944	-3.7 %	3,949,066	3,954,069	-.1 %
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	65,924	70,436	-6.4	794,905	822,624	-3.4
Containers	47,984	42,488	12.9	541,186	500,646	8.1
Total	113,908	112,924	.9	1,336,091	1,323,270	1.0
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.2	19.8	-3.0 %	229.2	228.3	.4 %

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